

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00838 092240Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----042211 092243Z /14

P 092218Z MAR 78  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9945  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00838

EXDIS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PCAT, UNSC, IS, XF  
SUBJECT: FRENCH DENIAL OF ARMS TO SOUTH AFRICA

REF: TEL AVIV 2936

1. AMBASSADOR LEONARD APPROACHED FRENCH PERMREP LEPRETTE ON MARCH 9 CONCERNING APPLICATION OF SC RES 418 PROHIBITING ARMS TRANSFERS TO SOUTH AFRICA. BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION, LEONARD REMARKED THAT SINCE THE PASSAGE OF SC RES 418 WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE ISRAELIS WHOSE INTERPRETATION OF RES 418 PERMITS THE DELIVERY OF EQUIPMENT IN EXISTING CONTRACTS. LEONARD SAID THIS WAS CLEARLY NOT THE US INTERPRETATION. LEPRETTE CONCURRED THAT THE ISRAELI INTERPRETATION WAS NOT SHARED BY FRANCE. HE ADDED THAT FRANCE HAS HALTED ALL ARMS SUPPLIES TO SOUTH AFRICA.

2. LEONARD MENTIONED THAT RECENTLY WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORT FROM SOUTH AFRICA ALLEGING THAT FRANCE IS CONTINU-  
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ING TO SUPPLY ARMS TO SOUTH AFRICA. LEPRETTE DENIED REPORT. LEONARD SAID THAT HE ASSUMED OF COURSE THAT FRANCE WAS ADHERING STRICTLY TO RES 418 AND SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR DENIAL OF ALLEGATIONS TO COME FROM FRENCH OFFICIAL. LEPRETTE SAID HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO PARIS AND WOULD TAKE UP THERE QUESTION OF A DENIAL. LEPRETTE DID NOT MAKE COMMITMENT AS TO SPECI-

FIC ACTION GOF MIGHT TAKE. HE DID HOWEVER SEEM CONFIDENT  
THAT THERE WAS NO TRUTH IN THE REPORT. LEPRETTE UNDERSTOOD  
FRENCH DENIAL WOULD STRENGTHEN THE LEGAL AND POLITICAL  
ISOLATION OF ISRAEL CONCERNING ARMS TO SOUTH AFRICA. YOUNG

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic DecapTIONing:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** UNSC RESOLUTIONS, ARMS EMBARGO, ARMS SHIPMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 mar 1978  
**DecapTION Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**DecapTION Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978USUNN00838  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780106-1139  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 78 TEL AVIV 2936  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 aug 2005  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3380408  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH DENIAL OF ARMS TO SOUTH AFRICA  
**TAGS:** PCAT, IS, XF, FR, SF, UNSC  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014